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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable EDWARD J. MARKEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Thank you, dear God, for the gift of this day and for the opportunity to serve both You and country. We are not worthy of the least of Your blessings, yet You give us the privilege of working to keep our Nation strong.

As our lawmakers this day seek to be responsible stewards of their high calling, make them salt and light to this generation. May, as salt, they help make our world safer and more palatable. May, as light, they eliminate the dark corridors of disunity and contention, replacing them with harmony and civility.

Our Father, this is the day that You have given us to seek to leave our world better than we found it. Use us as instruments of Your glory.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable EDWARD J. MARKEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MARKEY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

CHAPLAIN BARRY BLACK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have heard the good Chaplain talk about some of the things we should not do, and one of them is be envious. I try not to be, but I have to admit that every morning I hear his speech I am envious of his voice. I have what I have. It is not much in the way of a voice. Boy, it would be great if I could stand here and give that Dr. Barry Black voice, but I cannot do that. Even though I know it is not the right thing to do, I am still envious of his voice and I will always be.

JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION ACT OF 2013—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 92, the Franken Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 92, S. 162, a bill to reauthorize and improve the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2004.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, if any, the Senate will be

in a period of morning business until 12:15 today.

Because of a change in schedule, the Republicans will have their caucus today rather than yesterday as we normally do.

The time until 12:15 will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

At 12:15 there will be a rollcall vote on the confirmation of the Fischer nomination to be a member of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors. I am happy we are going to get this good man confirmed, but, as I will talk about in a minute, this obstruction is unbelievable. Fischer is going to now be a member of the Federal Reserve Board. He also has been chosen to be the Vice Chair of the Federal Reserve Board.

Janet Yellen, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, has called many of my colleagues saying: Why do we need another vote? I need him here. There are administrative duties—this is a huge organization—waiting to be done.

But we are going to have to go through the cloture process all over again on this man. What a waste of our time—our time—the people's time. Anyway, that is what we are going to do. We are going to vote to confirm him today and then come back at some later time and confirm him to be the Vice Chair. We could not confirm him as Vice Chair first because he is not a member of the Board.

Following that vote, the Senate will be in recess until 2 p.m. today, allowing for the Republican caucus meeting.

At 2:10 there will be up to five rollcall votes in relation to several nominations: cloture on the Barron nomination to be a circuit court judge for the First Circuit; confirmation of the Cook nomination as a member of the Privacy and Civil Liberty Oversight Board; confirmation of the Daly nomination to be U.S. attorney in Connecticut; confirmation of the Green nomination to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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